

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 EB-11 SS-20 SP-03 SAM-01 PM-07

INR-11 SSO-00 INRE-00 RSC-01 /086 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/RPE:EHPREEG

SCI/EN - H. BENGELSDORF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OECD

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEETING: HANDLING OF ACTION
PROPOSALS.

REF(A) STATE 207121, (B) OECD 3678

1. THE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES THE MISSION'S CAREFUL
ANALYSIS OF THE DELEGATION OF POWERS ISSUE. FOLLOWING
ARE OUR COMMENTS.
2. WE BELIEVE THAT A REFUSAL BY THE COUNCIL TO DELEGATE
POWERS TO THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS COULD BE A NEGATIVE
PRECEDENT BEARING ON THE IEP DECISION, SINCE IT WOULD
INDICATE OPPOSITION TO THE PRINCIPLE OF COUNCIL DELEGATION.
3. WHILE WE TOO ARE SENSITIVE TO THE RISKS INVOLVED IN
GRANTING POWERS TO FUNCTIONAL MEETINGS, THERE IS A DANGER
IN DEBATING THESE RISKS AT THIS TIME, WHEN THE ARGUMENTS
USED MIGHT BE PICKED UP AND TURNED AGAINST A DELEGATION

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TO THE NEW ENERGY AGENCY.

4. SINCE THE ENVISAGED GRANT OF AUTHORITY TO THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS WILL BE AD HOC, WE WILL RETAIN THE ABILITY TO ARGUE AGAINST FUTURE DELEGATIONS OF POWER, IF WE SHOULD SO DESIRE.

5. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE OUR INTERESTS WILL BEST BE SERVED BY SUPPORTING THE FORMULATION IN REF A (OPTION A OF REF B).

6. SHOULD A CONTRARY CONSENSUS EMERGE AT THE HEADS OF DEL MEETING, PLEASE REPORT FULLY AND SEEK FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE209503
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DLAMB;MLEVINE:LGS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740267-0719
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740921/aaaaartu.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: A) STATE 207121, (B) OECD 3678
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEETING: HANDLING OF ACTION PROPOSALS.
TAGS: SENV, OECD
To: OECD PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005